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# **NEWS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

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## **Nearly \$500,000 of Cocaine seized at Checkpoint** *Border Patrol agents discover drugs hidden in vehicle*

**Temecula, California** - Nearly half a million dollars of cocaine was discovered yesterday evening by U.S. Border Patrol agents working at the I-15 checkpoint.

Nervous behavior and inconsistent answers led to the discovery of over 15 pounds of cocaine hidden in the doorframes of a 1996 Lincoln Continental. Border Patrol detector dogs alerted to the cocaine after agents sent the vehicle to secondary inspection for closer investigation. Eleven individual packages with an estimated street value of \$480,320 were discovered. The driver and passenger, both Mexican nationals legally in the United States, were taken into custody.

Both subjects and the contraband were turned over to the Riverside County Sheriff's department for prosecution.

The discovery marks the largest single cocaine seizure by Border Patrol Agents in the San Diego Sector this year. In the last 12 months, agents have seized over \$6 million worth of illegal narcotics in San Diego County.

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